

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The specification is amended to include section headings.

Claims 1-10 were previously pending in the application. New claims 11-13 are added. Therefore, claims 1-13 are presented for consideration.

Claims 1 and 5 are amended to recite a decorative element to replace the previously recited a lining element. Support for the new feature can be found at least on page 3, lines 17-19. The above change is believed sufficient to address the 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejection noted on page 2 of the Official Action.

Claims 1 and 4-6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by HUNT 4,583,331. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended to clarify that the canvas is tensioned by the closure itself, to the exclusion of any other tensioning element thereof. Support for this feature can be found at least on page 2, lines 1-3 of the application as filed.

HUNT discloses a frame supported structure with fabric panels that are formed from a plurality of spaced arched frame members pivotally attached at their lower ends to ground plates. After the panels are set in position, the panels are tensioned by

inflating inflatable sections extending for the length of the panel. See for example the abstract of HUNT.

Thus, HUNT uses inflatable sections to tension the canvas. HUNT does not disclose that the tension of the canvas is guaranteed by the means of the closure itself, to the exclusion of any other tensioning element thereof.

As the reference does not disclose that which is recited, the anticipation rejection is not viable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, 7-9 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over HUNT. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 3 and 7-10 depend from claim 1 and further define invention and are believed patentable over HUNT at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

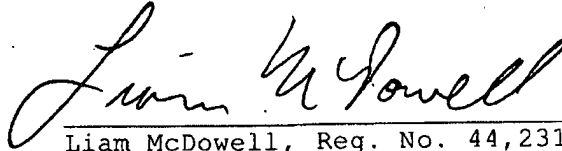
New claims 11-13 are added. The new claims are based on original claims 2, 3 and 10 with preferable clauses being removed and replaced by the new claims. The new claims are believed patentable at least for depending from an allowable independent claim.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing Remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Liam McDowell", is written over a horizontal line.

Liam McDowell, Reg. No. 44,231  
209 Madison Street, Suite 500  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Telephone (703) 521-2297  
Telefax (703) 685-0573  
(703) 979-4709

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